



ALASKAN WAY VIADUCT AND SEAWALL REPLACEMENT PROJECT COMMENT SUMMARY

January 2004

Introduction

The Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall Replacement Project database contains 3,597 comments, 5 of which were submitted in January 2004.

Origin of Comments

Four comments were submitted on the website. One comment was submitted through email. The project team did not hold any community briefings during January.

Two comments were received from the northern area of the project, one from the central area, and none from the southern area. The origin of two comments could not be determined.

Comment Categories

Two of the comments received expressed interest in the project and requested their name be added to the mailing list.

There were two comments inquiring about the location of specific project information. The comments are listed below:

- Where can I find the answers to questions asked by participants in the public forums last year? (The project team directed this citizen to the project website for more information and offered to help answer any further questions they had. This was sufficient for the citizen.)
- I would like to have the names of the experts referred to in the WSDOT article that has this quote:
" Experts say there is a one-in-twenty chance that an earthquake could permanently close the viaduct in the next ten years. An earthquake could cause the seawall to fail as well. The seawall supports Alaskan Way and fill soil underneath the viaduct. Failure could lead to permanent damage to the viaduct and Alaskan Way, as well as adjacent property and buildings". In another article on the same subject the quote was "a 1 in 20 chance a strong earthquake would damage the viaduct and seawall".
Is this the same author/authors?

This article refers to the viaduct project and the alternatives that may be used. The statement of a 1 in 20 chance of earthquake damage is interesting. I would like to have more information as to the author, the study and statistics that were used to make this statement.

Your help in this is greatly appreciated.



(WSDOT responded to this question directing the citizen to T Y Lin Structural Sufficiency Review Report.)

One comment was received addressing the visual quality of the waterfront and also the freight movement on the viaduct. That comment is below:

- What issues concern you the most about the aerial plan?
The waterfront is currently dominated by the viaduct. The road disconnects the waterfront scene from the rest of the city, and frankly the road is ugly. There is so much tourist attraction and city beautification that would be lost by bringing back a huge highway right along the waterfront.
- What issues concern you the most about the rebuild plan?
Same as above.
- What issues concern you the most about the tunnel plan?
- The road obviously serves a purpose for commuters, but is also important for the carrying of goods for the ports. Would the tunnel allow adequate access for trucks?
- What opportunities about these plans most interest you?
I've always disliked how much the viaduct cuts through the city. This project gives us the opportunity to create a wonderful Seattle waterfront.